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Who is the COALITION? An independent voice for people with disabilities in our state. A membership organization – individual and organizational members A source of information and referral, training and advocacy. A central networking point for organizations serving people with disabilities and others.

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Who are South Dakotans with disabilities? • The number of non-institutionalized South Dakotans of all ages is estimated to be 796,500. • 93,600 (11.8%) of these individuals reported having one or more disabilities.

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Of the 93,600 reporting a disability 1.7% report having a visual disability 3.7% report having a hearing disability 6.7% report having an ambulatory disability 4.4% report having a cognitive disability 2.1% report having a self-care disability 4.6% report having an independent living disability 4.6% report having an independent living disability The independent Living disability question was only asked of persons aged 16 years old and older.

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They may have • Visable disabilities • Hidden disabilities Even if hidden, the disability is real. They are family, friends and neighbors. They are us.

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Disability as a Function of Age - .3% of ages 4 and under have a disability - 4.4% of ages 5 to 15 years have a disability - 6.4% of ages 16 – 20 years have a disability - 8.7% of ages 21 – 64 years have a disability - 21.4% of ages 65 – 74 years have a disability - 50.6% ages 75 and older have a disability

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Welcoming All People People with disabilities are People First. Treat adults as adults. Ask, don't assume. Create environment that permits people with hidden disabilities to disclose if necessary. Work with me, not on me. Do with me, not for me! Apply basic courtesies to ALL people

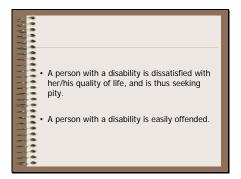
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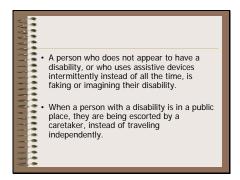
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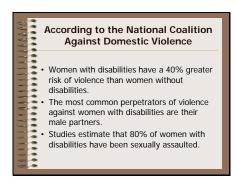
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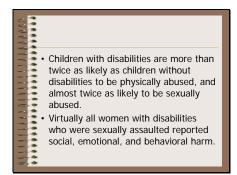
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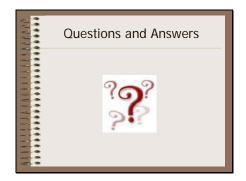
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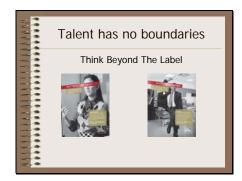
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